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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

30 September 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : National Intelligence Officer for Warning

FROM : David D. Gries
National Intelligence Officer for Narcotics

SUBJECT : Narcotics Warning Assessment

The following items were discussed at the Narcotics warning meeting held on 27 September 1982.

Remarks by DDCI, John McMahon -- CIA's effort, formerly focused on tactical collection, has been refocused on strategic collection and analysis. Our need to do more has led to assignment of an NIO to the narcotics account and hopefully this measure will lead to better coordination in the Intelligence Community. We also look forward to interagency estimates on narcotics and to flagging these for policymakers.

I. Warning -- Phil Dur of the NSC staff described surveillance programs covering seaborne marijuana trade from Columbia. Surveillance assets drawn from DEA, Customs and the Navy will attempt to identify movement by air and sea through the Carribean. NSA continues to explore supporting interdiction with SIGINT intercepts. Similar efforts are also being mounted against air deliveries from the Bahamas, but basic data is still lacking. [redacted] agreed to report back on how the IC Staff is organizing these requirements.

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II. Regional Developments

a. [redacted] reported on recent analytical work showing that areas in Latin America suitable to coca growing are more extensive than previously recognized. Limitations on production, therefore, are imposed more by lack of infrastructure than by agricultural conditions. The same imagery used for production estimates can also be used to identify transportation infrastructure, especially ports and airfields.

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b. [redacted] described how the IC Staff is examining FY 84 budget submissions covering narcotics programs for all member agencies. An assessment of the National Humint Collection Plan on Narcotics is also set for 14 October at 1400 [redacted]

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c. Gary Liming explained how strategic intelligence helps enforcement agencies to define the narcotics problem -- how much is being

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produced, how it is moved, how it is paid for and who in the host government is on the take. Using this information, enforcement analysts can track trends and therefore assign resources effectively. Ultimately, strategic collection can lead to tactical action by enforcement agencies. The National Narcotics Intelligence Consumers Committee was also discussed and its production of unclassified estimates described. CIA agreed to compile and circulate a list of intelligence products written over the last two years. Representatives agreed to send titles of their own publications to NIO/Narcotics for compilation.

d. [] described NSA collection []

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[] There are legal as well as resource problems to overcome, but NSA is committed to expanded collection. First steps include help to the Coast Guard and DEA in Florida []

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[] Participants agreed that NSA has great potential to collect useful narcotics intelligence.

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III. Plans for Interagency Work -- Participants discussed incorporating in a national estimate forthcoming papers on four main areas of coca production in South America. The question of preparing an estimate on host government attitudes was also raised. A committee of four [] Wiant, Liming, [] will work up several suitable topics for interagency estimates and report back.

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IV. Collection Implications

a. Seymour Bolten asked for additional collection on Cuban involvement in trafficking. Good information was collected and analyzed in 1981, but collection subsequently decreased. DDO representatives were asked to remind the field.

b. [] cited NSA efforts to expand SIGINT collection in the Caribbean, where it is now inadequate.

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